

RESPONSE AND REMARKS

SECTION 112 REJECTIONS

In the Office Action, Claims 9-12 were rejected on various grounds under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Office Action, Topic Nos. 1-3, p. 2.

SECTION 102(b) Rejections

In the Office Action, Claims 2, 5, 7, 8 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Block (U.S. Patent No. 6,010,156, "Block"). Office Action, Topic Nos. 4-5, pgs. 2-4.

SECTION 103(a) REJECTIONS

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 10-12 and 14-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Block in view of Amato, et al. (U.S. Application Publication No. 2003/0046103, "Amato"). Office Action, Topic Nos. 6-7, pgs. 5-13.

In the Office Action, Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Block in view of Willoughby et al. (U.S. Application Publication No. 2003/0217017, "Willoughby"). Office Action, Topic No. 8, p. 14.

REMARKS REGARDING SECTION 112 REJECTIONS

The rejections of Claims 9-12 under Section 112, second paragraph, have been carefully considered. Claims 9-12 have been cancelled. It is respectfully asserted that the pending Claims of the application satisfy the requirements of Section 112 second paragraph.

REMARKS REGARDING SECTION 103(a) REJECTIONS

The rejections of the Claims under Section 103(a) have been carefully considered. Claims 1-7, 13 and 20 have been amended; dependent Claims 8-12 and 14-18 have been cancelled; new dependent Claims 21-28 have been added.

It is respectfully asserted, for the reasons given below, that the amended and new Claims of the present application are patentable over the references of record.

It is respectfully asserted that none of the references of record disclose, anticipate, teach or suggest all of the limitations of, for example, Claim 1, as amended. Amended Claim 1 is directed to a computer printer printable self-adhesive label set that comprises:

a first label on a layer of self-adhesive label stock, comprising a postage indicia label, wherein the postage indicia label is adapted to be printed with postage indicia;

a second label on the layer of self-adhesive label stock, comprising a first one-dimensional barcode label, wherein the first one-dimensional barcode label is adapted to be printed with a set of mailing identification information;

a third label on the layer of self-adhesive label stock, comprising a second one-dimensional barcode label, wherein the second one-dimensional barcode is adapted to be printed with a set of address information; and

a first expanse of the layer of self-adhesive label that separates the second label from the third label, wherein the first expanse is excluded from the computer printer printable self-adhesive label set.

In particular, for example, it is respectfully asserted that none of the references of record disclose, anticipate, teach or suggest the limitations of Claim 1 of "... a first expanse of the layer of self-adhesive label that separates the second label from the third label." In describing an illustrative embodiment depicted in FIG. 7A, the specification of the present application states:

In the second exemplary computer printer printable self-adhesive label arrangement set 112 as depicted in FIG. 7A, top edge 135a of one-dimensional barcode label 135 is separated from bottom edge 136b of one-dimensional barcode label 136 by an expanse 128 of top printable layer (see element 141 in FIG. 3A); the exemplary expanse 128 depicted in FIG. 7A measures approximately 7/8 inch.

Specification, p. 16, lines 14-19.

In describing another illustrative embodiment depicted in FIG. 9, the specification of the present application states:

In the label arrangement set 112"-1 depicted in FIG. 9, one-dimensional barcode label 135 is separated by an expanse 128' from one-dimensional barcode label 136, where expanse 128' measures only approximately 1/8 inch ...

Specification, p. 17, lines 24-26.

It is respectfully asserted that none of the references of record disclose, anticipate, teach or suggest two self-adhesive one-dimensional barcode labels separated by an expanse of a layer of the self-adhesive label that is excluded from the relevant set of self-adhesive labels.

For example, it is respectfully asserted that Block does not disclose two one-dimensional barcode labels. Further, it is respectfully asserted that the labels that are disclosed in Block are shown and described as separated by perforations from each other. See, e.g., Block, col. 3, lines 35-45.

For reasons similar to those described above with respect to Claim 1, it is respectfully asserted that none of the references of record disclose, anticipate, teach or suggest two self-adhesive one-dimensional barcode labels separated by an expanse or portion of a layer of the self-adhesive label as claimed by Claims 2 and 5.

It is further respectfully asserted that none of the references of record disclose, anticipate, teach or suggest all of the limitations of, for example, independent Claim 4, as amended. Amended independent Claim 4 is directed to a sheet of a plurality of computer printer printable self-adhesive label sets, wherein each set comprises:

a first label comprising a postage indicia label, wherein the postage indicia label is adapted to be printed with postage indicia in portrait orientation; and

a second label comprising a first one-dimensional barcode label, wherein the first one-dimensional barcode label is adapted to be printed with a set of mailing identification information in landscape orientation.

FIGS. 12-15 depict exemplary embodiments of the above-recited limitations. The Specification explains that:

For example, in FIGS. 12 through 15, postage indicia label 14 and the return address label 150 are adapted for printing postage indicia and

return address respectively in portrait orientation; one-dimensional barcode label 136 is adapted for printing in a landscape orientation, a one-dimensional barcode representing either mailing identification information, such as a PLANET™ code, or delivery address information, such as a POSTNET code.

Specification, p. 19, line 27 – p. 20, line 2.

It is respectfully asserted that none of the references of record disclose, anticipate, teach or suggest a postage indicia label in portrait orientation and a one-dimensional barcode label in landscape orientation on a sheet of labels as claimed by amended Claim 4.

For reasons similar to those given with respect to Claim 4, it is respectfully asserted that none of the references of record disclose, anticipate, teach or suggest the limitations recited by independent Claim 7 for:

directing a computer postage system to print postage indicia in a portrait orientation on a postage indicia label of one of the self-adhesive label arrangements sets;

directing the computer postage system to print a first barcode representing mail piece tracking information, in landscape orientation, on a first barcode label of the self-adhesive label arrangement set; and

directing the computer postage system to print a second barcode representing delivery address information, in landscape orientation, on a second barcode label of the special purpose label arrangement set.

As distinguished from the references of record, independent Claim 13, as amended, is directed to a method for printing postage indicia and mailing tracking information onto a particular label arrangement set on a single sheet of self-adhesive labels, wherein the single sheet of self-adhesive labels comprises a plurality of label arrangement sets, and wherein each label arrangement set comprises a plurality of labels, the method comprising:

directing a computer postage system to print postage indicia on a first label of the particular label arrangement set wherein the first label of the particular label arrangement set is adapted to be printed with postage indicia;

directing the computer postage system to print a first graphic symbology on a second label of the particular label arrangement set, wherein the first graphic symbology represents mailing tracking information, and wherein the second label of the particular label arrangement set is adapted to be printed with at least one graphic

symbology representing mailing identification information; and directing the computer postage system to print a second graphic symbology on a third label of the particular label arrangement set, wherein the second graphic symbology represents delivery address information, and wherein the second label of the particular label arrangement is adapted to be printed with at least one graphic symbology representing delivery address information.

The Office Action stated that "Amato et al disclose a mailpiece with both the PLANET™ code label and the POSTNET code label." Office Action, Topic No. 7, p. 5 (referring to claim 1; citing paragraphs [0009], [0015] and FIG. 1 of Amato). It is respectfully asserted, for the following reasons, that Amato does not disclose the above-recited limitations of amended independent Claim 13.

It is respectfully asserted that with respect to FIG. 1, Amato describes element 120 as a "sender code," not as a sender code label (see Amato, [0029]); Amato describes element 125 as a "destination code," not as a destination code label (see Amato, [0030]).

Paragraph [0009] of Amato explains that barcodes on mail pieces may be used to represent machine readable PLANET™ and POSTNET codes. See Amato, [0009]. Paragraph [0015] of Amato explains the construction of a change of address data record that contains "... the original mailer-applied PLANET code and POSTNET code, and a second postal-applied PLANET code containing a forwarding ZIP code." Amato, [0015].

Amato states that "[i]n a preferred embodiment sender code 120 and destination code 125 are applied to mail item 110 on a label in the form of a machine-readable bar code." Amato, [0039] (emphasis added).

It is respectfully asserted that the above-quoted statements by Amato, and in particular the statement by Amato that "...sender code 120 and destination code 125 are applied to mail item 110 on a label ...," is evidence that Amato does not disclose the above-recited limitations of amended independent Claim 13.

Further, it is respectfully asserted that various embodiments of the above-recited limitations of amended independent Claim 13 may be useful for printing a

label set for use with a window envelope through which a recipient's address is visible. In particular, it is respectfully asserted that a label comprising printed postage indicia resulting from various embodiments of the above-recited limitations of amended independent Claim 13 may be placed on a window envelope in a place for postage; a label comprising a first graphic symbology representing printed mailing identification information resulting from various embodiments of the above-recited limitations of amended independent Claim 13 may be placed above the window of the window envelope; and a label comprising a second graphic symbology representing printed delivery address information resulting from various embodiments of the above-recited limitations of amended independent Claim 13 may be placed below the window of the window envelope.

Further, for reasons similar to those given above with respect to Claims 4 and 7, it is respectfully asserted that none of the references of record disclose, anticipate, teach or suggest the limitations regarding landscape-oriented labels recited by Claims 26 and 27 (that are dependent on Claim 13).

For the reasons given above with respect to the independent Claims, it is respectfully asserted that none of the references of record disclose, anticipate, teach or suggest all of the limitations of the dependent Claims of the present application.

CONCLUSION

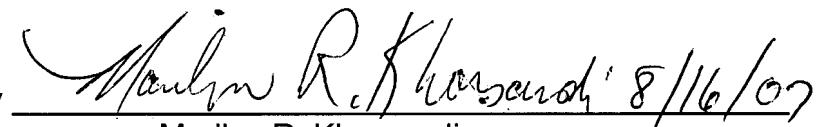
In view of the foregoing amendments, and for the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully asserted that the invention disclosed and claimed in the present application, as amended, is not fairly taught by any of the references of record, taken either alone or in combination, and that the application is in condition for

Application Serial No. 10/731,992
Office Action Dated April 16, 2007

allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the application as amended herewith is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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